

Calcoin News

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE
California State Numismatic Association

C O N T E N T S

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Volume II, Number 3

MAY 1957



Who's Who In California Numismatics

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FRED E. TINKHAM
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By R. G. McARTHUR

Whenever mention is made of the Hanford Coin Club or the Merced Coin Club, one naturally thinks of Fred E. Tinkham, perennial secretary-treasurer and sparkplug of both organizations.

Fred Elmer Tinkham was born March 24, 1889, in Gloucester, R.I. His parents, Alfred E. and Hattie M. Tinkham, are both deceased.

Fred spent his boyhood days in Rocky Hill, R.I., where he attended public schools. His formal education was completed at Oregon Export College, Portland, Ore., where he later served as an instructor in telegraphy.

Tinkham is a dyed-in-the-wool railroader, having been employed by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Co. since April 29, 1911. During his 46 years service with the Santa Fe, 22 of which were spent as station agent at Cutler, Calif., he filled numerous positions such as telegrapher, timekeeper and ticket clerk. In 1919, he had the honor of organizing the Valley Division of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. Recently, in recognition of 45 years faithful service, the president of the company presented him with a life-time pass.

On June 1, 1913, in Saxonville, Mass., Fred married Hazel M. Chase, a boyhood sweetheart. They returned to Taft, Calif., where their first child, Edna, was born. In addition to Edna, now the wife of a building construction superintendent, the Tinkhams have a daughter, Ruth, the wife of a Santa Fe engineer, and a son, Ralph, who is connected with a California winery.

Fred, whose hobbies include pho-



tography, woodworking and leathercraft, is a collector of general United States, Canadian and Mexican coins. He began his numismatic career at the age of 5, with the help of his father. The elder Tinkham, then a streetcar conductor, because of the dim light from coal oil lamps, received many foreign and counterfeit coins. As the company required him to redeem them in good U.S. money, they were passed on to Fred. Thus a collection was started.

Fred Tinkham is the No. 1 member of the Hanford Coin Club. He served as its first president in 1947, the year of its organization, and as its secretary-treasurer from 1948 to 1951, inclusive. He joined the Merced Numismatic Society, now the Merced Coin Club, in 1952, as member No. 30, and has for several years been its secretary-treasurer. In addition to his duties as secretary-treasurer, Fred edits the **Hanford Coin Collector** and the **Merced Coinews**, both monthly publications.

Fred Tinkham joined the American Numismatic Association in 1947 as member No. 14376. He has participated in several National Coin Week exhibitions and in 1951 placed rather high for individual exhibitors. As

(Continued on Page 96)

California's Commemoratives

By JOHN E. OHLS, San Francisco

On the morning of June 21, 1915, at precisely 11 o'clock, T. W. H. Shanahan, superintendent of the San Francisco Mint, stood before a representative group of people who had been invited specifically for the occasion, and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am about to strike the first \$50 coin ever to be authorized by the United States Government." He stepped to a table and picked up a gold planchet some two inches in diameter and about a quarter inch thick, octagonal in shape. He continued, "This event should be of particular interest to Californians, as it commemorates two occasions — the greatest of world expositions and the historic \$50 slug of pioneer days."

He then pulled a lever that set 450 tons of striking power into action, transforming an ordinary gold planchet into one of the world's most beautiful coins. With a special pair of tongs, he removed the coin and passed it to Charles C. Moore, president of the great Panama-Pacific International Exposition. After careful examination, Moore pronounced it a perfect coin and passed it around for all to see. Then Moore stepped to the press and with a few appropriate remarks, struck piece No. 2. The third piece was struck by a Captain C. Miranda of the Argentine Government; the fourth by the Hon. Julius Kahn, Congressman from California and author and supporter of the PPIE Commemorative coin bill in Congress.

There were 28 invited guests present on this occasion and each one had his turn at the press. What a momentous occasion it must have been for them!

Numismatists and numismatics also were represented, for three members of the American Numismatic Association were among those 28 guests. Farran Zerbe, past president of the ANA and former editor of *The Numismatist*, who was in charge of the Coin and Medal Department at the Exposition, struck piece No. 19. I. Leland Steinman, soon to be second vice-president of

the ANA, struck No. 20, and Fred T. Huddart struck No. 26. That same month these three men founded the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society. Fred Huddart was its first president and I. Leland Steinman its first secretary-treasurer. Farran Zerbe, its founder, later became the second president of the PCNS.

As is usual, there was considerable criticism about these new coins by the press and critics. Probably the chief complaint was the design. "Why," they asked, "was the design a classical one when the events for which the pieces were issued were so purely modern and American?" Let's consider this design. It shows a helmeted head of Minerva, a favorite Roman goddess, facing to left, a shield at her left shoulder inscribed in Roman numerals MCMXV or 1915. Around this, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FIFTY DOLLARS; in the eight angles are eight dolphins. It was submitted by Robert Aitken, famous designer and engraver of New York.

Consider his possible reasons for this design. First of all, the piece was to commemorate two occasions mentioned before — the completion of the Panama Canal, opening of new trade routes, and the building of the great western part of the United States. Therefore, I believe he chose Minerva as the central design chiefly because of her many attributes. She was goddess of wisdom, skill, war, the arts, spinning, weaving, agriculture, horticulture, and contemplation. On the reverse the central design is that of an owl, symbol of wisdom and sacred symbol of Minerva. Now notice how he ties the whole together by using on the obverse the eight dolphins to convey the idea of the uninterrupted water route made possible by the Panama Canal, and by perching the owl on the branch of western pine, on the reverse, thereby alluding to the resources of the great West.

Probably the second most important complaint was that such a high premium was charged for these

pieces, for they initially were sold for \$100 each. This possibly accounted to a great extent for the fact that only about half of the 3000 pieces of both round and octagonal pieces issued were sold, and many of these were released at face in the last few days of the Exposition, rather than returned to the mint for melting.

The third complaint was that both round and octagonal pieces bore the same design. This, too, in all likelihood contributed to the failure to sell more of them, as many were reluctant to buy two pieces so nearly alike and at such premiums.

The octagon pieces went on sale in June, but the round ones were not struck until sometime in July.

For the quarter-eagle a design was prepared by a Miss Longman of New York City. Because of illness, she was unable to finish in time, so the



work fell upon our own mint designers, Charles E. Barber and G. T. Morgan. This piece, although classical in design, was received enthusiastically. On the obverse is Columbia, carrying a caduceus and riding on a hippocampus which is plunging to left, symbolically inviting the nations of the world to use the new waterway. On the reverse is an eagle on a standard in an attitude of watchful warning, as if to say, "We are prepared to protect our own." You will remember that Europe at this time already was engaged in World War I, and perhaps this was to serve as a warning to all who coveted anything American. Of these pieces, 10,000 were struck but only something over 6000 sold. The rest were returned for melting.

The gold dollar was the work of Charles Keck, also of New York. It was truly modern and American and called a "bold piece of work." Here on the obverse we find the head of a laborer wearing a peaked cap, this in honor of the working men whose work made the Canal a reality. The reverse shows two dolphins circling,

symbolic of the meeting of two oceans. There were 25,000 of these minted and all were sold.



Some say the half dollar of this set is not as graceful or as satisfying as the others. To me it not only is the most beautiful but the most meaningful and the most expressive of the events commemorated. The obverse shows Columbia scattering flowers of welcome upon the Pacific Ocean as she invites all nations to use the facilities of San Francisco Bay. Beyond her the sun is setting and casting its rays on the Golden Gate. Behind her is a nude youth with a cornucopia, symbolic of the young West, its boundless resources and its unlimited possibilities.

The reverse shows a shield of the United States surmounted by an eagle with its wings spread and extended as if conscious of its power and proud of all it represents. To the left is a branch of oak symbolic of stability, and to the right an olive branch, symbolic of peace. This is again the work of Charles E. Barber and G. T. Morgan of the Philadelphia Mint. Of the 60,000 struck, more than half (nearly 33,000) were unsold and were returned to be melted. These Panama Pacific commemorative coins are all outstanding pieces of work and should be an inspiration to those who take the time to understand all they seek to relate in the language of the designer.

The greatest of all expositions long since has passed into history, but the record it left in these pieces will continue to live and to inspire those who come after us for many, many generations to come. But these pieces tell only of the beginnings of the history of this great state; its progress is engraved on others of these milestones in history. In 1925 California celebrated its 75th Jubilee of Statehood and had a half dollar issued to commemorate the event. It was designed by one of our own Californians, Jo Mora of Carmel. The obverse shows a prospector kneeling in the act of panning gold, the discovery of which was responsible for

the initial phenomenal growth of the state. The reverse shows a grizzly bear, which is the state's emblem as well as a symbol of the rich natural resources of this great state.

In 1935 and 1936 another great Exposition was held in California—the California Pacific Exposition at

You may ask what possible connection has Minerva with this event? Here is my interpretation: Here again the artist personifies California by Minerva, the lady of so many attributes. The ship and the miner represent periods of California's history, and the cornucopia its re-



San Diego. To commemorate the occasion, a half dollar was issued. Here again is a design by Robert Aitken, and here again is his goddess Minerva. This time she is seated, holding a spear with her right

sources. The shield and head of Medusa can only refer to a time when law and order was only a phrase, for none existed until the people arose in their anger and stamped out lawlessness. The reverse, of course,



hand and her shield with her left. The California bear is at her right side. On the shield is the head of Medusa, a gorgon which she slew to protect the other gods of ancient times, and above the head is California's motto, EUREKA. In the field at her right are two things alluding to the history of California — a sailing ship near her right elbow and a miner with pickaxe below, near the bear. At her left knee a cornucopia spills out on the ground.

refers to the Exposition itself by portraying a group of the outstanding buildings.

Of this piece there were two dates and two mints, 1935S and 1936D. Of a total of the more than 430,000 of both of these pieces minted, only slightly more than 100,000 were sold, the rest being returned and melted.

The last of the California commemoratives, at least up to this present time (we hope there will be others), was issued in 1936 — the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

half dollar. Here a great engineering feat was celebrated with the opening of this great bridge. The piece was designed by a young San Francisco



artist, Jacques Schnier. Here the obverse shows the California grizzly bear, and that was the object of the greatest criticism against this piece. It was felt that something symbolic of Liberty should have adorned the obverse, for Monarch II, a bear which had been the model for this piece, had spent most of its life in a cage as a public exhibit. The reverse shows the San Francisco end of the Bay Bridge, the famous Ferry Building, and to the left two ships about to pass under the bridge. Yerba Buena Island and the east bay hills appear in the distance.

In the understanding of the artist's designs of these pieces commemorating events in the history of this great state, we are treated to a beautiful panorama of its discovery, growth and progress. And as our great bridges and highways rise in step with progress and more and more people cross California's borders and settle down to call it home, we can understand the expression attributed to Archimedes and adopted as our state motto — EUREKA, "I have found it."

* * *

Half dollar illustrations enlarged to 1 1/4 times actual size; \$2 1/2 gold piece enlarged 2:1. Photography by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand Jan. 31, 1957.....	\$ 495.51
Receipts: Dues	\$648.00
Total receipts	1143.51
Disbursements: Calcoin News , pictures, printing, mailing	460.35
Transportation of cases	71.59
Convention printing	9.88
Postage and supplies	32.00
Total disbursements	573.82
Cash on hand March 31, 1957.....	\$ 569.69

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Jan. 31, 1957.....	512
Loss by death.....	4
	508
New members	18
Membership March 31, 1957.....	526
Paid-up members March 31, 1957	384

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

791	ARGUEILLES, Frank.....	931 Isleta Ave., Santa Barbara, Calif.
792	DUDLEY, Carlton S. Jr.	1000 Vancouver Ave., Burlingame, Calif.
797	FALLGREN, Dr. Palmer A.	1361 Park St., Alameda, Calif.
786	GARDNER, William H.	2711 E. 7th, Long Beach 4, Calif.
782	GOTTFRIED, George J.	224 N. Canon Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.
793	KUNTZ, G. Lee.....	1452 N. Tulane Road, Claremont, Calif.
788	LEE, William Y.	69 Plaza Shopping Center, Fresno 21, Calif.
789	McKINLEY, Neal.....	1220 Marin St., Vallejo, Calif.
795	MOORMAN, Lewis A.	1999 Ashby Ave., Berkeley 3, Calif.
780	OSBURN, E. H.	517 W. Virginia, Phoenix, Ariz.
783	PAXMAN, Curtis R., M.D.	13307 San Antonio Dr., Norwalk, Calif.
796	SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COIN CLUB	
	William Y. Lee, Sec.	69 Plaza Shopping Center, Fresno 21, Calif.
784	SLOAN, Mrs. Hallene H.....	215 Hermosa Ave., Oakland 18, Calif.
794	SMITH, E. G.	2850 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 18, Calif.
787	STEELE, Mrs. Willie Joe.....	11840 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, Calif.
790	WARDLOW, Anna F.	1465 Louisiana St., Vallejo, Calif.
785	WEIGEL, Paul.....	955 W. Manchester, Los Angeles 18, Calif.
781	WHARTON, Doris R.	13292 Sirius, Orange, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGES

117	BAY CITIES COIN CLUB	
	Kenneth W. Geiger, Sec.	Apt. B, 9352 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif.
750	BURROUGHS, R. B.	Foremost Dairies (Bangkok) Ltd., P.O. Box 1066, Bangkok, Thailand
631	COOK, Kenneth.....	P.O. Box 578, Glendale, Ariz.
734	CRANDALL, Merle E.	2710 El Camino Real, San Mateo, Calif.
18	CRATON, P. F.	3029 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach 3, Calif.
746	DELTA COIN CLUB OF CALIFORNIA	
	Bradford Gott, Sec.	1105 Brookside, Stockton, Calif.
510	DENNIS, Ernest S.	Star Route 188, Mariposa, Calif.
603	DeRADE, William A.	246 Harlan St., San Leandro, Calif.
599	DODSON, Capt. O. H., USN.....	Hq., 1st Naval Dist., 495 Summer St., Boston 10, Mass.
356	DONALD, Harold F.	P.O. Box 221, Tarzana, Calif.
711	EDGAR, C. J.	1861 Twain St., Baldwin, N.Y.
607	FOSS, C. F.	P.O. Box 611, La Mesa, Calif.
368	GRANT, Joseph S.	P.O. Box 2085, Pasadena, Calif.
253	LEWIS, Leland C.	P.O. Box A, Azusa, Calif.
709	NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	Harold F. Donald, Sec.	P.O. Box 221, Tarzana, Calif.
675	RUFF, Lloyd L.	810 N. E. 52nd Ave., Portland 13, Ore.
588	SCHNEIDER, Edward.....	c/o Moffett Engineering, Inc., P.O. Box 54, Albany, Calif.
552	SNYDER, Russell G.	P.O. Box 221, Burbank, Calif.
161	STANTON, Delbert O.	4757 Adenmoor, Lakewood, Calif.
618	VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY	
	Hawley E. Rich, Sec.	P.O. Box 1111, Vallejo, Calif.
589	WEST, John A.	c/o Marina Stamps and Coins, 2385 Chestnut St., San Francisco, Calif.

DECEASED

100	JOHNSTON, Eugene D.	1006 Broadway, San Diego 1, Calif.
352	MacDONALD, Atwood L.	480 Elm St., San Diego 1, Calif.
493	SMITH, Alvin R.	681 Jean St., Oakland 10, Calif.
703	SMITH, Ralph H.	2298 S. 1st St., San Jose, Calif.

THOMAS W. WARD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

State News Briefs

Stanford Museum Gets Yap Money

Stanford University is the recipient of a 110-pound piece of Yap stone money, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Whitcomb, alumni. Whitecomb is Education Officer on Yap and has been director of the Yap Island school system for several years.

The large doughnut-like ring of limestone has been placed on display in the Stanford Museum anthropological collection. Yapese still use such money in transactions relating to marriages, political settlements, religious and other important affairs, according to Whitcomb.

"The Yapese used to cut the money from quarries in another of the Caroline groups, the Palau Islands, some 300 miles away. From there the pieces had to be taken to Yap by canoe. Some pieces which were lost through capsizing of canoes are still remembered and are used in transactions by the Yap people," Whitecomb said.

* * *

PUBLICITY FOR COLVER

Charles Colver of Glendora received quite a writeup in the Pasadena *Star-News* of Oct. 1. Colver, assistant dispatcher for the U.S. Forest Service, Arcadia office, is president of the Orange County Coin Club and vice-president of the San Bernardino County Coin Club. His collection consists primarily of U.S. and English coins. Two- and three-column pictures accompany the article.

* * *

Historian Werling asks all members to take an active part in the Association by sending clippings having to do with the CSNA to him, to be used in the history scrapbook. He especially urges the clipping and mailing to him of anything pertaining to the conventions, including pictures and clippings, together with newspapers and dates in which the latter appeared.

MINT TO QUIT REFINING

Gradual discontinuance of gold and silver refining at the San Francisco Mint has been ordered by William Brett, federal mint director, according to Arthur Carmichael, S.F. Mint director. The mint dropped coining operations two years ago. Nine of the 22 coining presses are to be moved in the near future to other mints. Acceptance of gold and silver deposits, assaying and melting and the sale of the two precious metals will be continued, Brett said.

* * *

MARITAL MEDAL

Friends of the Gilbert D. Eatons of the East Bay Coin Club are enjoying a chuckle. It seems that Gil Eaton was heard to make a remark that he should have a medal for 40 years of marriage to Mrs. Eaton. On their 41st anniversary, Mrs. Eaton called his bluff and had a small medal struck that reads: "To Gilbert Eaton, for 41 years of marital service."

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No. 3

Postage Stamps As Currency

By DON T. THRALL, Berkeley

In order to understand better the circumstances surrounding the use of postage stamps as currency, it will be best to review briefly the establishment of the mint by the newly-formed federal government and the early coinage of the United States. The establishment of the mint by Congress was slow in coming, because some feared it would be a further invasion of states' rights and others observed there was a plentiful supply of acceptable foreign coins in circulation; hence, no real need for additional coins.

The mint was established and the standard for the new coinage was enacted into law by Congress on April 2, 1792. President Washington assigned administration of the mint to the State Department because Thomas Jefferson, then Secretary of State, was well acquainted with minting operations in Europe. In 1795, at the insistence of Hamilton, the mint was transferred to the Treasury Department.

Initially, the coins made by the government had a metallic value nearly equal to their face value. At first, coins were not made for the account of the government, but were made for those who brought the metal to the mint to be coined. This resulted in relatively few coins being made. The coins had such a high metallic value that a slight increase in value of the metal made it profitable for the holders of the coins to withdraw them from circulation and either export them or melt them down and sell them as base metal.

Hostilities between the North and the South began in 1861. By this time, the new United States coinage was becoming widely accepted. Canada had changed to a decimal system in 1858, and since the British government had shipped only small quantities of the new coins to Canada, United States fractional coins circulated widely. United States minor silver coins also circulated in the West Indies and in Latin America.

Up to this time the federal gov-

ernment had not found it necessary to issue paper money. The various states chartered banks, with few restrictions on their currency-issuing privileges. In 1861 there was about \$200 million in state bank notes and about \$30 million in United States Treasury demand notes in circulation. By the end of the year, the efforts of the Treasury to finance the war by loans had failed. This resulted in suspension of specie payments at the beginning of 1862. Gold immediately was withdrawn from circulation except on the Pacific Coast. Silver and copper coins remained in circulation for the present.

Both state and Treasury notes were quoted at a discount in terms of gold. Silver and copper had a bullion value that paper did not have. When the discount rate dropped below 97 cents gold for a paper dollar, it became profitable to export to Canada (ship silver to Canada, buy gold, ship gold to the U.S., buy paper, then start over again).

Once the drop started in January 1862, it continued to a point where it became profitable to melt coins for bullion. About this time everyone started hoarding, and minor silver really disappeared in June 1862. In July, brokers were offering a premium of 5 per cent and 6 per cent for silver coins. On July 9, 1862, a discount of 8 per cent prevailed in New York. This resulted in \$100 in silver being worth \$97 in gold and \$108 in Treasury paper. There were still millions of cents in circulation, but the next smallest denomination was a \$5 Treasury note.

This presented a strange paradox during a war boom. It became increasingly difficult to conduct business, particularly for utilities such as ferries and street cars. Things got to the point where business houses were insisting that customers buy in multiples of not less than \$5 or go without.

In July 1862 stamps began to make their appearance as currency. This was a very poor currency physically, but it did have the advantage of



stability. Some localities cut up \$1 and \$2 state bank notes and some states issued fractional bank notes. Some cities undertook to issue fractional notes, which were widely accepted. In some localities, county governments issued what appeared to be fractional bank notes but in reality were checks drawn on the banks.

Various means were used in an effort to protect these adhesives. They were pasted on small slips of paper of various weights. Some firms used small envelopes to contain the stamps. These envelopes contained advertising and the value of the stamps enclosed. Few of these envelopes exist today.

On Aug. 12, 1862, a Bostonian,

John Gault, obtained a patent for a "design for postage stamp case . . . being an invention new and original, designed for encasing government stamps for currency". He also conceived the idea of selling the space on the backs of the cases for advertising.

On July 17, 1862, the Congress passed the following bill "providing for the use of postage stamps for money":

"Be it enacted . . . That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish to the assistant treasurers, and such designated depositaries of the United States as may be by him selected in such sums as he may deem expedient, the postage and other stamps





of the United States, to be exchanged by them, on application, for United States notes; and from and after the first day of August next such stamps shall be receivable for all dues to the United States less than five dollars, and shall be exchanged for United States notes when presented to any assistant treasurer or any designated depository selected as aforesaid in sums not less than five dollars.

"SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, that from and after the first day of August, Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-two, no private corporation, banking association, firm, or individual shall make, issue, circulate, or pay any note, check, memorandum, token, or other obligation, for less sum than one dollar, intended to

circulate as money or to be received or used in lieu of lawful money of the United States; and every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof in any district or circuit court of the United States, be punished by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both, at the option of the court."

This really didn't help matters much, as the Treasury Department hadn't made any arrangements with the Post Office Department and the latter just wasn't equipped to handle the rush to purchase stamps. Worn stamps were supposed to be accepted for exchange of new stamps, but the Post Office at first refused to make any exchanges.





Because postage stamps proved to be very impractical as a circulating medium, the Treasury Department issued, without Congressional authorization, the first of our fractional currency, referred to as postage currency. This was issued in denominations of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents. The first series was issued in perforated sheets similar to perforated postage stamp sheets. When the perforations proved impractical, the next series was issued without the perforations, otherwise being the same. These sheets were cut apart with scissors. The need for \$1 bills was so great that frequently the notes were cut into blocks of \$1 value.

On March 3, 1863, Congress enacted a law "providing for the issue of fractional notes, etc." as follows:

"SECTION 4. And be it further enacted, that in lieu of postage and revenue stamps for fractional currency, and of fractional notes, commonly called postage currency, issued or to be issued, the Secretary of the Treasury may issue fractional notes of like amount in such form as he may deem expedient, and may provide for the engraving, preparation, and issue thereof in the Treasury Department building. And all such notes issued shall be exchangeable by the assistant treasurer and designated depositaries for United States notes, in sums not less than three dollars, and shall be receivable for postage and revenue stamps, and also in payment of any dues to the United States less than five dollars, except duties on imports, and shall



be redeemed on presentation at the Treasury of the United States in such sums and under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe: Provided, that the whole amount of fractional currency issued, including postage and revenue stamps issued as currency, shall not exceed fifty million dollars.

"SECTION 7. And be it further enacted, all banks, associations, or corporations, and individuals issuing or reissuing notes or bills for circulation as currency after April first, Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-Three, in sums representing any fractional part of a dollar, shall be subject to and pay a duty of five per centum each half year thereafter upon the amount of such fractional notes or bills so issued."

This Act authorized the issuance of the postage currency which already had been made and circulated, and authorized the issuance of the subsequent fractional notes.

Encased postage stamps proved quite satisfactory, but because of the heavy demand for stamps and the government's inability to meet it, postmasters finally refused to sell the large quantities to John Gault which were required by him to fill his orders. In a relatively short period of time he was forced out of business by a lack of raw materials, namely, postage stamps.

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Drowne, Henry Russell. U.S. Postage Stamps as Necessity War Money.

* * *

Illustrations enlarged to twice actual size.
Photography by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea.

—CSNA—

OLDEST COIN SEMITIC

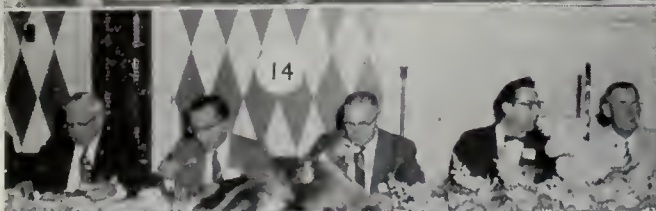
What is regarded as the most ancient coin in the world is one discovered by a German archaeologist during his explorations in northern Syria. It is a coin of pure silver, bearing a perfect Aramean inscription of Panammu Bar Rerub, King of Schamol, who reigned 800 years B.C. Up to the time this coin was found the Lydians had always been regarded as the inventors of money, but this new find showed that the Semitic Arameans, who lived two centuries before the Lydians, are the oldest known coiners of money.

Vallejo Convention

Cutlines

SEE PICTURES, NEXT PAGE

1. Leo A. Young and E. A. Parker at auction table; 2. Milton Strauch and friends discuss his winning of best-in-show exhibit award; 3. Don Rhodes, general chairman; Al St. John, master of ceremonies and R. G. McArthur, CSNA president, at banquet; 5. Seated: Dr. N. A. Bowers, Leonel C. Panosh, Dr. Calvert L. Emmons and Stewart Bingham. Standing: Charles V. Kappen, editor, *Calcoin News*; 6. Auction bidders; 7. "Eagle on Our Coins" display; 8. Boy Scout merit badge coin exhibit; 9. A. Kosoff shows his silver medal, won for best article in *Calcoin News* during 1956; 10. Mrs. William H. Smith at bourse; 11. John R. Slusher of Portland, Ore., stands between Sol Alexander and Charles M. Johnson; 12. Milton Strauch and Robert Patterson in exhibits room; 13. Kenneth W. Lee and Mrs. Mabel Patterson enjoy her collection of "ducky" items; 14. Erich Werling, historian; Harry S. Davidson, newly-elected president; R. G. McArthur, Don Rhodes and Al St. John; 15. Dr. N. A. Bowers, literary awards committee chairman, presents A. Kosoff with first prize medal; 16. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Johnson at bourse; 17. Rudy Gjurovich, "King of Koin Collectors"; 18. Alice Gallagher and Gen Elvin sing songs of "Gay Nineties"; 19. Complete collection of metal and wooden "money" issued for CSNA conventions by CSNA and California coin clubs; 20. Dr. C. Glenn Curtis; 21. Forum speakers: Neal McKinley, Chairman John E. Ohls, Mrs. Harry Cutler and Leo A. Young; 22. Incoming and outgoing officers, top row, left to right: William H. Spence, Erich Werling, R. G. McArthur, Harry S. Davidson and John E. Ohls; front row: Charles V. Kappen, T. Kirk Hill, Dr. C. L. Emmons, L. C. Panosh, John Y. Earne, Stewart Bingham and Tom Ward; 23. Leonel C. Panosh, ANA president; 24. Edward Fogler is awarded East Bay Coin Club's Outstanding Collector of the Year plaque by Gilbert D. Eaton, CSNA director and past president of EBCC; 25. "Lefty" Gomez of New York Yankees pitching fame, Charles N. "Chuck" Peters and L. C. Panosh; 26. Mrs. R. G. McArthur registers; Don Rhodes and Tom Ward at registration table; 27. Center left, Grant P. "Deuces Wild" Hatch, oldest CSNA member (he'll be 92 in July); Kenneth W. Lee at extreme right.



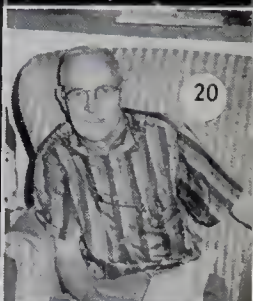
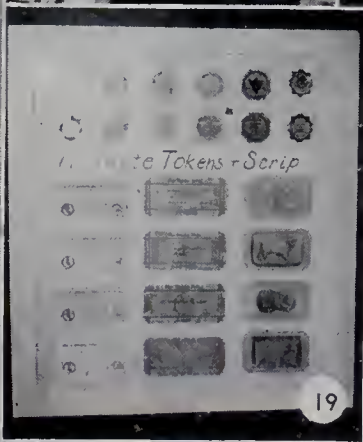
Convention Scenes

20th Semi-Annual, April 11 - 14, 195



At Vallejo

Photography by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis



Vallejo Convention

By JOHN E. OHLS

Forty-eight exhibitors used 76 cases to display 51 exhibits at the 20th semi-annual CSNA convention in Vallejo, April 11-14. This broke the previous record of 42 exhibits at Santa Monica in 1948. Registered attendance was 206, largest ever for a Northern convention; third largest in CSNA history. Thirty-one dealers had bourse spaces for the second largest bourse. The banquet was attended by 166, the luncheon by 31, the club officers' breakfast by 37 and 35 persons made the Mare Is and Naval Shipyard bus tour.

NUMISMATIC FORUM

The Friday Forum, conducted by John E. Ohls, consisted of the following speakers and topics: Neal McKinley, Vallejo, "History of the Vallejo-Benicia Area"; Mrs. Harry Cutler, San Francisco, "California Gold Quarters, Halves and Dollars"; and Leo A. Young, Oakland, "Numismatics Today in California". A question period followed each speech. L. C. Panosh, ANA president, and R. G. McArthur, CSNA president, also spoke. It was the best attended forum in CSNA history.

CLUB OFFICERS' BREAKFAST

Gilbert D. Eaton of Oakland was moderator at the breakfast, which was attended by 37 officers and guests. Subjects discussed were newspaper publicity, bourse at club meetings, exhibits, greeting of newcomers, missionary work to smaller clubs, rewarding guest speakers, juniors, financing, business meetings and programs.

AUCTION SESSIONS

Leo A. Young was happy with auction results. He stated that some coins went high and some low, but all in all, it was most successful. Abe Kosoff and Earl A. Parker assisted Young in calling the auction.

SATURDAY BANQUET

At the Saturday banquet, attended by 166, Al St. John of the Solano Co. Fair, master of ceremonies, introduced R. G. McArthur, CSNA

president, who greeted those present and introduced those seated at the head table.

Clifford Liss, Awards chairman, introduced his committee members, Kenneth Lee and John Yribarne; announced exhibit winners and presented the best-in-show medal to Milton Strauch for his display, "Gold Coins of the Netherlands".

President McArthur introduced newly-elected officers, who were then installed by Leonel C. Panosh, ANA president.

Dr. N. A. Bowers, chairman of the Literary Awards committee, announced winners of the best articles published in *Calcoin News* during 1956. These were Abe Kosoff, Encino, first award, a silver medal; Milton C. Strauch, Daly City, second award, a bronze medal; and William H. Spence and Robert C. Patterson, honorable mention.

President Harry S. Davidson presented the past president medal to R. G. McArthur.

Entertainment consisted of Gay Nineties songs by Alice Gallagher and Gen Elvin.

At the conclusion of the program, award ribbons were placed in the winners' cases.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Harry S. Davidson was elected president at the Saturday business session. Others elected are John E. Ohls, vice-president; Winn Osborne, secretary; T. Kirk Hill, treasurer; Charles V. Kappen, editor, *Calcoin News*; Erich Werling, historian; Stewart Bingham, librarian and a board of five directors: R. G. McArthur, William H. Spence, Dr. Curtis Paxman, John Yribarne and Gilbert D. Eaton. Dr. C. Glenn Curtis presented the elected slate for the nominating committee.

Leonel C. Panosh read a letter from Clyde L. Grimm, notifying the convention that he had withdrawn as a candidate for ANA board of directors. A motion was passed to notify the ANA that the CSNA is solidly behind the election of R. G. McArthur to its board.

SUNDAY LUNCHEON

A smorgasbord luncheon, held at noon Sunday, was attended by 31 persons. After lunch, several of the men pitched in and helped to dismantle and pack the Association's properties, said their final goodbyes and the convention was officially closed.

31 BOURSE DEALERS

Earl A. Parker and Bill Cummings, bourse co-chairmen, report that 31 dealers had tables, second best CSNA record. They were:

Del Bassetti, San Luis Obispo; Karl Brainard, Los Angeles; Merle Crandall, San Mateo; Frank Galvin, Oakland; Edward Gans, Berkeley; Joe Gordon, San Francisco; Hollinbeck Coin Co., Des Moines, Iowa; Hunter Hilton, Inglewood; W. E. Johnson, Santa Barbara; Charles V. Jones, Los Angeles; Don Jurgensen, Santa Barbara; Max Justus, Beverly Hills; Irving Knickerbocker, San Diego; A. Kosoff, Encino; Chester Krause, Iola, Wis.; Abner Kreisberg, Beverly Hills; Kenneth W. Lee, Glendale; Lewis Moorman, Berkeley; Bob Odom, Los Angeles; B. M. O'Hea, San Francisco; E. A. Parker, San Francisco; Charles N. Peters, Alameda; Dr. Ray Porter, San Luis Obispo; Dan Redmond, Emeryville; Don Rhodes, Vallejo; William Sexton, Santa Maria; Norman Shultz, Salt Lake City, Utah; John Skubis, San Francisco; William H. Smith, San Francisco; John Stanley, Santa Maria and Leo A. Young, Oakland.

CONVENTION VIGNETTES

Friends of Mike Carr and Ken Allen signing get-well cards for them . . . we certainly missed them

and wish them a speedy recovery . . . Dr. C. Glenn Curtis proudly showing his colored coin slides, the results of months of hard work . . . Tom Ward getting lost on the way . . . just couldn't find that town of Vallejo . . . the King of Koin Collectors, Rudy Gjurovich, strutting around in his coin costume . . . Karl Brainard singing with the Gay Nineties Girls at the banquet . . . Mr. "Deuces Wild" Hatch, the near centenarian, looking for the usual poker game . . . Mabel Patterson's "ducky" exhibit . . . that interesting Mare Island trip and the submarine . . . those hard-working Vallejo committees always on the run . . . Dr. N. A. "Daniel" Bowers and "Mr. Panish" at the banquet . . . Mrs. N. A. Bowers looking her usual chipper self . . . Dr. Glenn Curtis in the rafters and on the table tops with his ever ready camera—it just doesn't always flash . . . the 1915 PCNS exhibit attracting much attention . . . Historian Erich Werling, "jack of all trades", with his photographic history of CSNA . . . the same five, present at all previous conventions, attended this one—Mr. and Mrs. Irving Knickerbocker, Roy Hill, L. C. Panoosh and William Sexton.

—CSNA—

LEGAL TENDER

United States Code Annotated, Title 31, Money and Finance, 1954 Edition, reads (Chapter 9, Section 460):

"The minor coins of the United States shall be a legal tender, at their nominal value for any amount not exceeding 25 cents in any one payment."

By minor coins, the code says it means cents and nickels.

Exhibits and Awards

ALEXANDER, David, Long Beach: Boy Scout Merit Badge. (**Honorable Mention, Junior**)

ANDERSEN, Ken, San Francisco: Coins of the United Nations. (**Honorable Mention, Junior**)

BARR, Elvin L., San Francisco: The American Cent.

BARTON, Ed and **HUNT**, J. H., Berkeley: Coins From U.S. Private Mints. (**First Award, Unclassified**)

BASSETTI, Del, San Luis Obispo: The Victoria Cross. (**Non-competitive**)

BRAHAM, Mabel, San Francisco: U.S. Proof Sets.

BRANDEBERRY, E. C., San Francisco: California Pioneer Gold. (**First Award, U.S.**)

BROWN, Kirby, Berkeley: Miniature Money. (Second Award, Junior)
BURKHARDT, G., San Francisco: The Feminine Side (Coins of Women).
CARR, Michael K., Vallejo: Franklin D. Roosevelt Dime.
CASE, Thelma M., Santa Monica: Miscellaneous.
CHAPMAN, Guy L., Santa Rosa: Representative Coins of the U.S.A.
COLE, Clifton C., Santa Rosa: U.S. Commemoratives.
CUMMINGS, F. W., Vallejo: German Notgeld and Inflation Money. (Third Award, Paper Money)
CUTLER, Mrs. Harry, San Francisco: The Days of Old, the Days of Gold, the Days of '49.
DENTEL, Russell J., Vallejo: Coins Over 100 Years Old. (Third Award, Unclassified)
FRASER, Vreeland H., La Canada: U.S. Commemorative Half Dollars.
GERTH, Walter G., Vallejo: Widow's Mite and Tribute Penny; Ships on Coins; Odd and Curious Money. (Third Award, Specialized)
GJUROVICH, Rudy, San Jose: U.S. and Foreign Paper Money; Wooden Money. (First Award, Paper Money)
HAAS, Sidney J., Oakland: Crusaders' Coins. (Second Award, Unclassified)
HEINTZ, Mrs. Louise, Petaluma: Justafu Coins. (Third Award, Modern)
HILL, Roy, San Francisco: Coins of Ancient Times. (Second Award, Ancient)
HOLLINBECK COIN CO., Des Moines, Iowa: Kagin Reference Collection. (Non-competitive)
JOHNSON, Keith, San Francisco: Boy Scouts of the World. (First Award, Junior)
KAPPEN, Charles V., San Jose: California's Numismatic Publications.
LISS, C. L., San Francisco: U.S. Dollars. (Non-competitive)
LODGE, Lesley, San Francisco: Our Silver Dollar. (Third Award, U.S.)
LORET, Kurt E., San Francisco: The Year of Five Emperors—193 A.D. (First Award, Ancient)
LUMSDEN, Mrs. A. Gomez, Petaluma: Miscellaneous; Coin History of Our Presidents. (Second Award, Medals and Decorations)
MALUCELLI, John, San Francisco: My First Earned Dollar as It Looked to Me.
McDERMOTT, J. V., Milwaukee, Wis.: 1913 Liberty Head Nickel.
McKINLEY, Neal, Vallejo: So-Called Half Dollars. (First Award, Medals and Decorations)
MOORMAN, Lewis A., Berkeley: The Eagle as Depicted on U.S. Coins. (Non-competitive)
OHLS, John E., San Francisco: Coins of the Composers. (Second Award, Specialized)
PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, San Francisco: 1915 Commemorative Collection. (Non-competitive)
PATTERSON, Mabel, Daly City: Ducks. (Non-competitive)
PATTERSON, Robert C., Daly City: Proof Pedigree. (Second Award, U.S.)
PETRIE, Paul, Vallejo: U.S. \$1 Currency. (Second Award, Paper Money)
SEIKMANN, Robert, San Francisco: Coin Collecting Merit Badge. (Third Award, Junior)
SNEDAKER, Paul D., San Francisco: Religion and Coinage. (First Award, Modern)
STRAUCH, Milton C., Daly City: Gold Coins of the Netherlands. (First Award, Specialized; BEST-IN-SHOW)
THRALL, Don T., Berkeley: History of Wells Fargo Bank; Crowns of France. (Second Award, Modern)
TIVOL, Bill, San Francisco: Read Your Money.
TIVOL, David, San Francisco: India.
TIVOL, Ray, San Francisco: Our Mercury Dime.
WARDLOW, Anna, Vallejo: U.S. Gold Coinage.
WERLING, Erich, Oakland: Saxony—Coins of John George I.
YOUNG, Leo A., Oakland: Counterfeit \$50 Bill.

* * * *

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Clifford L. Liss, chairman; Kenneth W. Lee and John Yribarne.

Additions to the Library

Since publication of the CSNA Library Catalog in the January issue of *Calcoin News*, Stewart Bingham, librarian, reports donations of the following:

GENERAL WORKS

Money

H-1 — Holliday, G. R. *Money Talks About the Bible*. Ill. 28 pp.

MEDALS

F-3 — Forrer, L. *Benedetto Pistrucci*. Italian language. 40 pp. (Medalist and gem engraver who helped design the English sovereign. 1784-1855.)

PRICED CATALOGS

Bebee's Price List, 1947, 1948, 1951, 1953, 1954 and 1955.

Auction Catalogs, Priced

American Numismatic Association auction catalogs and official programs, 1941, 1942, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1953, 1954 and 1955.

Numismatic Gallery, Adolph Menjou Collection Sale, 1950.

Stack's, Davis-Graves Collection Sale, 1954.

NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

R-19 — Raymond, Wayte. *The Coin Collector's Journal*, May-June, 1948.

S-9 — Seaby's *Coin and Medal Bulletin*, 1954. 543 pp. Bound.

S-10 — Seaby's *Coin and Medal Bulletin*, 1953. 529 pp. Bound.

S-11 — Seaby's *Coin and Medal Bulletin*, 1955. 533 pp. Bound.

American Numismatic Association, *The Numismatist*:

July 1916, September 1916, October 1917, February 1918, December 1918, August 1919, February 1928, January 1930, March 1930, June 1933, July to December 1934, 1935-1956 complete.

Hewitt Bros. *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*:

February, May, August and November, 1936; 1937 complete; 1938 complete; 1939 all issues except March and October; 1940 June through December; all copies 1941 through 1952 complete; May, July, August through December, 1953; 1954 to date, complete.

DONORS TO THE LIBRARY

Edwin J. Bacon

Merle E. Crandall

Dr. Calvert L. Emmons

Roy Hill

Charles V. Kappen

Numismatic Gallery

Jack Ogilvie

Leonel C. Panosh

George Powers

Michael Powers

B. A. Seaby, Ltd.

William H. Spence

Stack's

J. R. Stewart

Paul H. Wittlin

Materials in the CSNA Library are available to members at no cost other than postage for mailing and return. A postal card or letter addressed to Stewart J. Bingham, CSNA Librarian, 533 E. Longden, Arcadia, Calif., will receive prompt attention. Further donations to the library will be appreciated.

YOUNGSTER ATTENDS VALLEJO CONVENTION

Leo Jones, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold C. Jones, San Francisco, wrote a letter to his Sixth Grade teacher at St. Agnes School, Sister Mary Berchmans, a year ago, asking that he be excused from classes April 11 and 12, 1957, to attend the state coin convention in Vallejo. With his parents' consent,

the permission was granted.

Alone, Leo took the bus to Vallejo Thursday and spent the day at the convention. His parents arrived that night to take him home, but were persuaded to let him remain with Mr. and Mrs. William H. Smith of San Francisco. Smith gave him a job selling coins at his bourse space on a commission basis.

Obituaries

EUGENE D. JOHNSTON

CSNA 100

Eugene D. Johnston, 73, died in San Diego March 30. Services were held at Johnson-Saum & Nobel Chapel April 5. Interment was in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. The Rev. Dr. Dean Nauman officiated.

Born in New Albany, Ind., Gene attended Illinois schools. He had a varied career as grocery clerk, postal sorter and carrier, telephone company employee, Singer sewing machine salesman and regional manager, security officer and coin dealer. He served in the U.S. Army during the Mexican Campaign. He owned the Circle Coin Co., Indianapolis, Ind., 1945-47, and opened Johnston's Coin Exchange in San Diego in 1947.

Mr. Johnston was a member and past president of the San Diego Numismatic Society, and a member of the Orange County Coin Club, the San Bernardino County Coin Club, CSNA and ANA. He was a member of the board of directors of the CSNA, 1950-51.

The funeral was attended by his many friends in the San Diego and surrounding area.

* * *

ATWOOD L. MacDONALD

CSNA 352

Atwood L. MacDonald, 480 Elm St., San Diego, died March 21 at the age of 60. Services were held March 25. Interment was in the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.

Mr. MacDonald, who was manager and operator of the New Palace Hotel, was a member of the San Diego Numismatic Society, CSNA and ANA. He was active in the Masonic Lodge. He was a collector of U.S. gold, currency and transportation tokens.

* * *

RALPH H. SMITH

CSNA 703

Ralph H. Smith, vice-president of the San Jose Coin Club and a member of the California State Numismatic Association, died March 10 as the result of a 70-foot fall from a high ladder while working in the Santa Clara industrial area. A na-

tive of Kansas City, Mo., he was a carpenter by trade.

Ralph made beautiful wooden coin boxes for his fellow collectors and donated two fine mahogany exhibit cases to the San Jose Coin Club. He was active in club exhibits at the Santa Clara County Fair.

Among those attending his funeral March 12 were Roy Hill and William Stones, president and treasurer, respectively, of the San Jose club.

* * *

ALVIN R. SMITH

CSNA 493

Alvin R. Smith of Oakland died March 15 as the result of a heart ailment. "Al" was a member of the California State Numismatic Association, the East Bay Coin Club and the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society.

He worked as a cab driver, but was building a coin business on the side. He maintained bourse spaces at several recent CSNA conventions.

Among East Bay members who attended his funeral were Gilbert D. Eaton, Edward Fogler, John Schroeder, Frank X. Galvin and Erich Werling.

—CSNA—

FAR EAST DIGEST

Vol. I, No. 1 of the **Far East Numismatic Digest** appeared in January. Published by Alan D. Craig, P.O. Box 491, Berkeley 1, Calif., the Digest is "A center for original works, translations, discussions, reviews and republications on Chinese, Japanese, Korean, et al. coins, currencies, tokens, medals, medallions, and general numismatics; and a safe source for official, genuine specimens . . .". Subscription price is \$1.85 a year. The first issue, consisting of 11 pages, includes paste-over sheets for the Korean section of Wayne Raymond's 19th and 20th century catalogs.

—CSNA—

In the "It's Rich" column of the **Vallejo Times Herald: EVENTS** — We are right in the middle of National Do-It-Yourself Week. It is also National Coin Week. There is no connection between the two.

The Santa Barbara Coin Club

By ERICH WERLING, Oakland

Elmar Kluth and his wife, Mildred, of 322 W. Ortega St., Santa Barbara, had attended many of the California State Numismatic Association conventions, had made many new friends at the CSNA coin shows, and had enjoyed the conventions immensely.

At one of the conventions the subject of local coin clubs came up. Kluth, feeling that there would be enough collector interest at Santa Barbara to support a club there, decided to look into the matter. One morning he and his wife, Mildred, visited the various coin dealers, getting names and addresses of collectors on their lists.

On March 1, 1956, he contacted

BOGUS \$50 BILL

Leo A. Young, Oakland coin dealer, called Secret Service agents March 8 when he discovered that the portrait on an old 1918 \$1 national currency note, altered to the \$50 denomination, was of Washington. He had been asked by its owner what the bill was worth. Tom H. Hanson, Secret Service agent-in-charge in San Francisco, called the altering of the \$1 to \$50 clever pen work. The bill had passed through several owners in Oakland since 1941. Secret Service lent it for display at the Vallejo CSNA convention.

—CSNA—

PCNS JUNIORS

The Pacific Coast Numismatic Society has, in the last little more than a year, reactivated the Junior Coin Collectors, now known as The PCNS Juniors, under the direction of John E. Ohls. The Juniors now have a paid-up membership of 25 and an average attendance of about 20. An enthusiastic group, they have their own officers and conduct their own meetings.

Officers are president, Robert Seikmann; vice-president, Bill Tivol; secretary, Elvin Barr; treasurer, Ken Andersen; librarian, Keith Johnson; board of governors, David Tivol, Terry Gillin and Herbert Mizis.

Louise E. Lowry, supervisor of Civic Recreation Center, and rented a Recreation Center cottage for the evening of Wednesday, March 7, 1956.

Then he mailed out postal cards to collectors in the area, which bore the following message: "We are setting the wheels in motion to organize a coin club in Santa Barbara. This is to invite you to attend the first meeting and express your ideas. We will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 1956, at the Recreation Center. Bring a friend who might be interested."

Mildred typed out the cards and addressed them to 32 persons. Kluth decided the name should be "Santa Barbara Coin Club".

The Kluths started out for the meeting, wondering if there would be any response to the cards. Mildred told Elmar that at least there would be the two of them there, even if no one else showed up. When they arrived at the Center, eight men had arrived there ahead of them. In all, attendance that first night was 11 men and one woman: Harry Kaplun, Albert Edson, W. E. Johnson, Don Jurgensen, J. J. O'Brien, Robert DeMott, James Atkinson, Chandler Campbell, Robert Birgbauer, Robert Hoag, and Mildred and Elmar Kluth.

Many things were discussed. Albert Edson said that he would serve as secretary. W. E. Johnson was named president pro tem until regular officers were elected.

The club was organized at the second meeting, at the Carrillo Hotel, March 19, 1956, with 10 members. By-laws were formed and the meeting night was selected as the third Monday of each month. Kluth was presented with membership card No. 1 and paid-up dues for one year. Robert W. DeMott was elected president; William E. Johnson, vice-president; Albert R. Edson, secretary-treasurer and Don C. Jurgensen and Robert Birgbauer, directors.

When it played host to the CSNA convention Nov. 8-11, 1956, the club had grown to 25 members.

California Club News, Views and Whos

Club news correspondents are reminded that deadline for their copy is the first day of the month preceding date of publication — June 1 for the July issue. Southern clubs should send reports and other news to Assistant Editor Charles M. Johnson, 3521 Vista St., Long Beach 3, Calif. Northern club reports should be addressed to Assistant Editor John E. Ohls, 1519 39th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

Delta Coin Club

Meets 3rd Monday in basement of Ward Tyler's Sport Shop, 145 E. Weber Ave., Stockton

Our main attraction, besides discussing our hobby and trading coins, is our auctions, which are held after each meeting. Meetings are well-attended, many persons coming from surrounding towns. New officers, elected in January, are president, Gordon D. Rammer; vice-president, Les Shock and secretary, Bradford Gott.

—Gordon D. Rammer,
President.



East Bay Coin Club

Meets 2nd Friday, 8 P.M., at
Danish Hall, 164 11th St.,
Oakland, Second Floor

The March 8 meeting was attended by 100 members and guests. Dick Wood was narrator for the ANA slides on Roman coins; Dan Redmond, projector operator. Vice-President Leo Young told of a \$50 1918 Federal Reserve banknote which was presented to him, his examination of it and his discovery that it had been altered by clever pen work. He called the Secret Service, which confiscated it. The bill will be on exhibit at the Vallejo CSNA convention.

* * *

The February meeting was attended by 106 members and guests. Five new applications for membership were received. Walt Ritchie, chairman of the numismatic article contest, outlined rules and asked for all to participate. James Hunt, librarian, had books available for members to

borrow. Stanley S. Hawley was named chairman of the history committee, which is to plan a booklet on EBCC history, to be published on the 10th Anniversary of the club in 1958.

Charles N. Peters spoke on a collection of "Copper, Silver and Gold Coins of India" which he has acquired and which he is in process of cataloguing. He exhibited many of these pieces. Other exhibitors: Ken Allen, Clifford Bloom, Kirby W. Brown, Mike Carr, Dr. A. G. Clarke, A. D. Craig, Walter Gerth, Roy Hill, A. G. K. Jakobsen, John E. Ohls, D. L. Rhodes, Arnold Rosing, John A. Schreuder, President Don T. Thrall and Leo A. Young.

—Mrs. K. W. Sloan,
Recording Secretary.

Long Beach Coin Club

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7:30 P.M., at
350 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Byzantine gold, silver and bronze coins were the subject of a talk by Dr. V. G. Rich of Fullerton at the March meeting of the Long Beach Coin Club. Dr. Rich traced Byzantine coinage thru the dark ages and displayed representative specimens. "Constantinople, located on the Bosphorus Straits, was the center of culture, wealth and most of the Byzantine coinage," he said. Nearly all the silver and bronze coins of this period come in poor condition; but the gold coins have survived in much better condition, and many are uncirculated.

President Charles L. Ruby announced that the Long Beach Coin Club would exchange programs with the Orange County Coin Club and present the program at the April meeting in Brea.

Ten new members joined.

* * * * *

All attendance records were broken when 141 members and guests turned out for the regular February meeting. Five new applicants were admitted to membership.

Dr. C. Glenn Curtis highlighted the evening's activities with an interesting and instructive talk about

Ecuador and its coins. Dr. Curtis served for two years as resident medical adviser to the Ecuadorian government. During this time he visited remote parts of the country and collected coins and other items used as media of exchange. Among the many things displayed at the meeting, the shrunken Indian heads attracted the most attention. Colored slides of the coins, people and scenes of Ecuador were used to illustrate the talk. Three cases displayed representative coins of Ecuador.

Following the newly-established practice of the Long Beach Coin Club, an honorary membership in the club was presented to Dr. Curtis in appreciation of his appearance before the club with an outstanding numismatic talk.

* * *

Seventy members and guests attended the annual banquet and family night Jan. 12 at the Lafayette Hotel. E. L. Sims, jovial club secretary, was M.C. Leonel C. Panosh, a charter member of the club, briefly discussed some of the work and problems he has encountered as president of the ANA. Other members told of interesting numismatic experiences.

Sol Alexander, outgoing president, installed Charles L. Ruby, incoming president; Charles W. Boothe, vice-president; E. L. Sims, secretary-treasurer and Ida Mae Griffity, Ben W. Williams, Enoch Sampson, Bill Henkel and Sol Alexander, board of directors for 1957. Inscribed gavels were presented to past presidents of the club and a fountain pen to the secretary.

—Charles M. Johnson,
Reporter.



Los Angeles Coin Club

Meets 1st Friday, 8 P.M.,
at Foresters' Hall,
Los Angeles

Attendance of 190 members and guests set a new record at the March 2 meeting. Pres. Karl Brainard presided.

The program for the evening included two speakers. Sol Alexander of the Long Beach Coin Club spoke on Mexican Revolutionary coins,

struck 1913-17. He told of his visits to Mexico and of having spoken to many persons who took part in the revolution and who minted the coins of this period. In this way he has been able to obtain many interesting stories and knowledge as to the number, variety and history of the coins.

Miss Ida Mae Griffin told of her "lucky" coins. During the past few years while working as a cashier for a newspaper, sorting the money collected from newsstands, she has found many 1914D and 1909S VDB cents, one Isabella quarter and other equally hard-to-find coins, including a complete set of buffalo nickels with full horns.

Exhibitors: Wayne Higbee, Clyde L. Grimm, Mrs. Thelma Case, Karl Brainard, Mrs. Grace Brainard and Mrs. Dorothy R. Smith. Higbee displayed U.S. mint errors; Grimm, die struck copies, electrotypes and counterfeits of early American coins. Eight new members were admitted.

* * *

Sam J. Kabealo, former president, spoke on "Modern Coin Collecting" at the Feb. 1 meeting. Attendance was 168 members and guests. Five new members joined.

Kabealo told of his early experiences and discouragements as a numismatist and suggested that the modern collector choose a definite field or series in which to specialize and then study and obtain counseling before collecting.

Exhibitors: Jack Seeler, Fred Tostevin and C. L. Grimm.

—Mrs. G. L. Kuntz,
Corresponding Secretary.

Merced Coin Club

Meets 3rd Monday, in Cub Scout Hut,
City Park, Merced

Darwin Summerton was elected president at the Feb. 18 meeting. Other new officers are Milton Walker, vice-president; Fred Tinkham, secretary-treasurer; Albert Groth, auctioneer; and Mrs. O. L. Schafer, librarian. Nine members were present at the meeting.

An auction followed the election, and Al Groth proved that the club had elected the right man for auctioneer. He is a born comedian and auctions should now prove to be a popular part of our meetings.

One member volunteered to furnish refreshments for the March meeting. The incoming president will provide for the entertainment at that time.

All 1956 members except one renewed their memberships for 1957, and two new members were enrolled in January. Paid-up membership is now 17.

—Fred E. Tinkham,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Monterey Park Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday at
Monterey Park Community Center,
Monterey Park

At the March 11 meeting, Harry Davidson of the Orange County Coin Club talked on gold and displayed coins of Canada, Austria and the U.S. Forty members and guests were present. Six new members were admitted. John Munnecke conducted the auction. President Jack Reberry presided.

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The Feb. 11 meeting was attended by 35 members and guests. Retiring President Paap was presented with an engraved gavel. Vreeland Fraser of La Canada spoke on "Commemorative Coins". Displays: Fraser, commemorative gold coins; Jacob Garmore, Indian head cents and Mrs. Letha Tschudy, Lincoln cents. Two new members were admitted.

—Mrs. Vera Schymos,
Corresponding Secretary.

Numismatic Association Of Southern California

The second annual 3-day convention was held at the New Hotel Clark in Los Angeles, Feb. 22-24. Registration totaled 261; 41 new members joined; 200 banquet tickets were sold; 43 dealers participated in the bourse. Leonel C. Panosh and Don Sherer, president and board member, respectively, of the American Numismatic Association and Robert G. McArthur, president of the California State Numismatic Association, attended.

At the business session the following officers were elected: W. R.

Fanning, president; Charles L. Ruby, vice-president; Ruth A. Johnson, secretary and Ben W. Williams, treasurer.

Best-in-show award was won by Eugene Cooper of San Diego with a display of ancients. First place awards were won by Vreeland Fraser, gold; Bruce Barthlow, early U.S.; Gene Nichols, late U.S.; Armando Gingras, modern foreign; Grace Brainard, currency and Roy Hill, miscellaneous.

S. J. Kabealo of Pasadena conducted the auction. Some of the prices realized were: 1909S VDB uncirculated cent, \$53.25; 1877 proof cent, \$170; 1892 proof quarter, Type 2, \$35; 1856 proof half, \$330; 1858 proof half, \$125 and 1909 proof half, \$75. An 1838 Gobrecht dollar sold for \$875. Two 1936 proof sets sold for \$360 and \$390.

—Charles M. Johnson,
Reporter.



Orange Co. Coin Club

Meets 4th Wednesday,
8 P.M., at Woman's
Clubhouse, Brea

Jan. 23 — 223rd meeting; 110 present.

This meeting marked the 18th annual banquet and installation of officers. T. Kirk Hill, master of ceremonies, presided.

Following a musical presentation of modernistic songs, "a la Presley", by a quartet of young men from Fullerton Junior College, Hill presented Dr. Thompson Webb of Webb School at Claremont, whose subject, "Wildcat Financiering", depicted his struggle to establish one of the outstanding private schools for boys.

Leonel C. Panosh, ANA president, installed officers for 1957. Sparking for outgoing officers, Pres. Joe Courreges outlined club accomplishments for 1956 and noted the club's growth to a new high of 250 paid-up members. Responding with "Expectations" for the new officers, Pres.-elect Charles Colver pointed to his ambition to promote an even greater and stronger club in 1957 and asked for cooperation of members.

Dec. 26 — 222nd meeting; Pres. Joe Courreges presiding; 102 present; 9 new members admitted.

Program Chairman Charles Colver presented the speaker, Don Smyser of San Bernardino, who gave another of his familiar theme talks on "Coins of the Bible". Each time Don gives this program, it becomes more popular with the audience and attracts new listeners. Although his subject covers fewer than 100 different coins, it is so great in scope of time and area, so rich in Biblical lore and history, that much is gained by the listeners.

—Herb Bergen,
Secretary.



PCNS

Meets last Wednesday,
8 P.M., at Palace Hotel,
San Francisco

The March meeting was attended by 45 members and guests. The program was "California Night", and exhibits of Californiana were varied and interesting. We welcomed as guests Charles Colver, president of the Orange County Coin Club, and a Mr. Riley of Spokane, Wash. John E. Ohls presented his paper, "California's Commemorative Coins".

* * *

The February meeting was designated "Orders and Medals Night" and the speaker was Harry A. Mohler, past president of the Orders and Medals Society of America and a frequent exhibitor at CSNA conventions. Mohler showed color slides of orders of the world, especially of China. He gave an outline history of Chinese orders.

Bids were made for coming state and national conventions for 1960 and 1965, respectively. Fifty members and guests were present. There were 23 exhibitors.

* * *

There were 47 members at the Jan. 30 meeting, President Patterson presiding. There were 22 exhibits, some of rare gold coins and other rarities and scarce items, on exhibit. Robert G. McArthur spoke on the coming CSNA convention and urged more competitive exhibits. Professor Charles V. Kappen spoke on the suc-

cess of the papers contest and recommended that it be continued. As a token of thanks for his work on behalf of the society, John E. Ohls was presented with a book by Davenport on multiple talers by President Patterson.

Robert G. McArthur was nominated and endorsed for ANA board of governors.

—Mrs. Harry Cutler,
Secretary.



Peninsula Coin Club

Meets 1st Thursday at
Chamber of Commerce
Bldg., 725 University
Ave., Palo Alto

A brief history of coins of India was presented by Charles N. Peters of Alameda at the April 4 meeting. Seventeen persons were present.

Exhibits were made by Charles V. Kappen, J. G. Taylor, Richard J. Rogers, Phil Stevenson, Rudy Gjurovich, Stanley L. Blois and Roy Hill. Next meeting will be May 2.

* * *

Robert G. McArthur, CSNA president, addressed the club during its March meeting on "Trade Dollars of the World". Thirty-four members and guests attended.

An election of officers resulted in the naming of William Mackey, president; B. C. Jacobs, vice-president and Roy Hill, secretary-treasurer. R. G. McArthur installed the new officers.

—Roy Hill,
Secretary-Treasurer.

* * *

Stanley S. Hawley spoke on "Coins of Ancient Greece" at the Feb. 7 meeting and showed slides of the coins. Twenty members attended. President Stanley Blois presided.

Upon motion by Edward Fogler, the club nominated Robert G. McArthur of Oakland for ANA board of governors.

Exhibits: F. J. Montegale, 16 different bills, including the educational series; Edward Fogler, proof sets; Ralph Mitchell, "Tower of Babel" show taler and Mexican sand mold dollar; Madeline Bergman, modern Greek coins and Hawaiian set; S. S. Hawley, coins of ancient Greece; Stanley Blois, Eisenhower and Nixon

silver medal and coin ash tray and Roy Hill, aes grave and Lincoln medal.

—Letha Gamble,
Secretary.

Petaluma Coin Collectors

Meet 2nd Monday at new City Hall, Petaluma

President Dorothy Lumsden presided at the March 11 meeting, which was attended by 10 members and two guests. Two new members were admitted.

An interesting coin quiz was conducted by President Lumsden. A number of members exhibited coins and spoke on them.

* * *

The February meeting was cancelled due to the death of the mother of President Dorothy Lumsden. All friends of Mrs. Lumsden extend their sympathy.

—Mrs. Louise Heintz,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Meets 2nd Monday, at Santa Rosa Junior
High School, Santa Rosa

The 96th meeting was held at Eisenhower's Restaurant on Exchange Ave. Feb. 11. Cliffton Cole was made responsible for promoting the coming CSNA convention at Vallejo amongst members. Mr. and Mrs. Earl A. Parker, Ralph A. Mitchell and Roy Hill attended from out of town. We enjoyed their presence and comments. President Reidelback presided.

—Guy L. Chapman,
Secretary-Treasurer.

—CSNA—

RARE CURRENCY — A printer's error that is worth about \$350 to rare money collectors has turned up in the New York area. It's a \$10 bill on one side and a \$1 note on the other. The Chase Manhattan Bank says four others like it turned up about two years ago.

—Oakland Tribune, March 10.

* * *

Bermuda first minted its own coins in the early 1600s. Only about 10 genuine specimens are now believed in existence, all of which are of great value.



San Bernardino Co. Coin Club

Meets 3rd Thursday,
8 P.M., at VFW Hall,
631 Third St.,
San Bernardino

At the Feb. 21 meeting, arrangements were completed for two coin displays. One display will be entered at the annual San Bernardino National Orange Show March 14-24, which attracts visitors from all of Southern California. The other display will mark the club's participation in National Coin Week. Two display spaces have been obtained at busy locations, where people may view the coin exhibits.

The club also voted to invite the California State Numismatic Association to hold its annual fall 1958 convention in San Bernardino.

Charles Colver spoke on and displayed English coins. Pictures were used to illustrate the talk. Malcolm Iles, collector-of-the-month, displayed uncirculated cents, 1856 - 1956. Mrs. Novack was elected mintmaster.

Eighty-four persons attended, 59 of them members. Five new members were admitted. President Duke Lages presided.

* * *

New meeting place, commencing with the Jan. 17 meeting, is the VFW Hall, 631 Third St., San Bernardino. This change to new and larger quarters accommodates the increasing attendance and club activities.

Fred W. Coops discussed the tools and problems of a coin collector and explained briefly grading, mounting for display and use of catalogs, magazines and price lists. He also related some of the problems and experiences encountered as a coin dealer.

Sixty-five members attended and six new members joined the club.

Peter B. Paync was appointed National Coin Week chairman and Bill Barrett was named to head the National Orange Show coin exhibits committee.

Exhibitors: Irvin Crone, Dan Harley, Dr. Calvert Emmons and Charles Colver. Crone's exhibit included raw gold specimens from the Comstock lode and the fabulous history of the Ophir mines.

—Dan Harley,
Secretary.

San Diego Numismatic Society

Meets 1st Monday, 8 P.M., at YMCA Auditorium,
1115 8th Ave., San Diego

A new regular meeting attendance record of 96 was established at the March 4 meeting. Ralph Mitchell of Palo Alto spoke on "Coin Prices". Mitchell remarked that in his opinion the drop in proof prices can be laid at the door of those numismatists who are becoming interested in the less collected items, such as fractional currency, war tokens and large bills.

Members were urged to participate in National Coin Week May 6-12 on an individual basis. Those desiring to compete for ANA awards are to contact Gene Nichols, Box 325, Balboa Island, Calif., Coin Week chairman. Joseph R. Givens is SDNS chairman and publicity director.

A larger meeting place is being sought by the society. Alfred DePauli and Mrs. Helen Dixon were appointed by President Francis S. Jones to screen possible locations. Paul Hamm suggested the society issue wooden nickels for the San Diego Fiesta del Pacifico July 24 to Aug. 10. It was voted to limit each member to the placing of three rather than five lots in the auction and to place a minimum value of 50 cents on each lot. Plans for a summer picnic were discussed. A lifetime membership was awarded Mrs. Mary Bowler.

A ribbon award for best coin display at regular meetings was made a permanent feature. The first ribbon was presented to Thomas McDaniel, who displayed bus and streetcar tokens. Other exhibits: Paul Hamm, crowns of the world and LeRoy Harvey, chopmarked dollars.

A report of the NASC convention in Los Angeles was made by Eugene Cooper, who remarked that Barber coins in uncirculated condition sold for twice book value. He said displays were good but small. Cooper won the best-in-show award.

Atwood McDonald, Abe Beck and Bill Bell were reported ill by Mrs. Mattie Knickerbocker of the visitation committee.

* * *

Harry G. Maynor, head of the local office of the Federal Bureau

of Investigation, addressed the club Jan. 19 on organization of the FBI, the theft of rare coins and bad check cases. Occasion was the 20th annual dinner and installation of officers. Held at the House of Hospitality, Balboa Park, San Diego, it was attended by 134 members and guests — a new record.

Francis S. Jones was installed president; Paul Hamm, vice-president; Joseph R. Givens, P.O. Box 706, National City, Calif., secretary; Earl Starr, treasurer and Eugene D. Johnston, executive board member.

Past presidents were presented with service medals. They were Dr. Bruce L. Wallace, 1937-42; Eugene D. Johnston, 1944-45; Dr. Ray H. Wilson, 1946-47; Leonel C. Panosh, 1948-49; Arthur J. Vigneault, 1953-54 and James J. Andersen, 1955-56. A special medal was awarded to Tom Ward for services performed.

Many valuable and artistic coins were displayed. The best-in-show medal was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. James J. Andersen for their display of coins of the world and dolls representative of the coins' origin. First place ribbon went to Eugene Cooper for his silver coins of ancient Greece, second to Tom Ward for bronze and silver coins of ancient Rome and third to Paul Hamm for sales tax tokens and to Arthur Vigneault for commemoratives, wooden nickels and fractional currency. Judges were John C. Yribarne, chairman, of Redlands; Sol Alexander and Harry S. Davidson, both of Los Angeles.

Master of ceremonies was S. J. Kabcalo of Pasadena. The American Numismatic Association was represented by Leonel C. Panosh, president, who also was installing officer.

—Joseph R. Givens,
Secretary.

San Joaquin Valley Coin Club

Meets at Sequoia Hotel, Fresno

The club has arranged for a regular meeting place in downtown Fresno — the Sequoia Hotel. We believe our new meeting place will help to advertise the club and to stimulate interest, so that we can do a better job of cooperation in the 1958 CSNA convention, for which we will be hosts.

We now have a paid-up membership of 48, which we feel is a good start. The club is a new member of the CSNA.

Address of the secretary is 69 Plaza Shopping Center, Fresno 1, Calif.

—William Y. Lee,
Secretary-Treasurer.



San Jose Coin Club

Meets 1st Monday at First
Federal Savings & Loan Assn.
Bldg., 50 N. 1st St., 2nd St.
entrance, Friendship Room

The club celebrated its 11th Anniversary with a dinner meeting at the Town House in San Jose April 1.

Following the dinner, Charles V. Kappen presented the narrative for the ANA slide set on Coinage of Christian Imperial Rome. William Stones operated the projector.

Professor Kappen will speak and show his slides of "Coins of Bible Days" May 9 at the University of Santa Clara during National Coin Week.

Members observed a moment of silence for Ralph Smith, vice-president, who died March 10, and the meeting was adjourned in his memory.

* * *

Twenty-four members and guests attended the March 4 meeting. W. A. Benson, welcomed back after some time in Sumatra, gave a brief account of the money there. President Roy Hill presided.

Robert G. McArthur of Oakland, CSNA president, was nominated for ANA board of governors.

—Cody R. Letsinger,
Secretary.

—————CSNA—————

FRESNO AUCTION

Any dealer member of the CSNA is eligible to submit a bid for the CSNA spring convention auction, which will be held in Fresno in April, 1958.

Proposals should be submitted in writing, and addressed to the CSNA president or secretary. The Executive Board will make the selection in May.

PNNA CONVENTION

The Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association convention will be held May 24-26 in the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore.

"We extend a most cordial invitation to our fellow coin collectors in California to join us," writes William N. Worth, chairman. "Three scenic highways make the trip to Oregon a pleasant one. For those who do not wish to drive, there are two major airlines, fast rail passenger service and two major bus lines."

Worth is a CSNA member, as are Bert Allumbaugh, vice-chairman; John R. Slusher, bourse chairman; Dudley L. McClure, publicity and John C. Bushnell, finance. In charge of convention auctions is Leo A. Young, former Portlander, now of 3244 Grand Ave., Oakland, Calif. Auctions will be held at 7 p.m. Friday and 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Address of the general chairman is 423 S.W. Washington St., Portland 4, Ore.

—————CSNA—————

HISTORIAN WANTS CALCOINS

Erich Werling is building a file of the **CSNA Bulletin**, **Calcoin News** and convention programs for the Historian-Curator's use. He will appreciate donations of the following: Vol. 1, No. 1; Vol. 2, No. 2; Vol. 4, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 2; Vol. 9, No. 5; Vol. 11, No. 1; and program for the Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, CSNA convention. He also will appreciate receiving any pictures or clippings pertaining to CSNA activities or any information not included in the history of the Association which appeared in the January issue.

Fred E. Tinkham

(Continued from Page 70)

member No. 200, Fred affiliated with the California State Numismatic Association in 1947. He was publicity chairman for the 1953 CSNA spring convention held in Merced and a great deal of the credit for the success of that meeting was due to his untiring efforts.

—————CSNA—————

Money is what we spend for luxuries and owe for necessities.

—Vallejo Times Herald.